

## QUESTIONS OF ETIQUETTE.

**The Rules of Best Behavior Explained to Several Correspondents.**

To the Editor: For two years I have been keeping company with a young man, and I always thought I was engaged to him, everybody said so. Anyhow, he gave me a real good ring and a lock of his hair, and when I used to go to Sunday-school picnics with other gentlemen he got real mad. Now he says he can't marry me because he has a wife. I am a family pride won't allow it—and yet he is living with a typewriter in Hoboken. How can I keep him in my engagement? He was my beau before he ever set eyes on her. I also, it is said for a good reason, a lady when she says parts. I'm sure I was always brought up to do it. I am gentle for a man to sit on the desk and swing his feet when making a call? Please answer and oblige.

A JERSEY CITY, N. J.  
P. R.—If you are engaged to one man is it wrong ever to kiss another?  
1. Hard as it seems, there is no way (unless you sink to a breach of promise suit) by which he can be held to his engagement. The fact of your being "a girl from Jersey" is not a capital crime, and is surely not his true reason for jilting you in favor of the Hoboken typewriter. You are probably better off without him. 2. It is not polite for a man to correct a lady, no matter what breaks in English she may make. But the term "pater" is seldom used by a man, unless, indeed, by "gentle." 3. No, it is not at all "genteel." 4. It is decidedly wrong, and had taste, besides.

To the Editor: R. and G. go to a certain school. R. showed R. the pictures of a lady. He saw two young ladies on a railway train, and asked them if they were R.'s sisters. They said they were. Tell me if that was proper on R.'s part, he having no introduction?  
J. W. L., Salisbury, Conn.  
Unless in exceptional cases it is better for two young people of different sexes not to start an acquaintance without an introduction. School boys and girls may, however, in such instances as you cite sometimes waive formality.

To the Editor: I am a young lady, and have kept company with a young man for one year, during which time I received a present of a ring. Has the young man any claim on me, as lately I have

been going to places of amusement with another young man?  
BESSIE REILLY.  
Unless the young man had asked you to marry him and you had accepted, you should not have taken the ring. He has no legal claim on you. If you are tired of him, tell him so, and send back his ring.

To the Editor: My father is a bill printer, and often gets free theatre tickets, which he doesn't use, because he doesn't care to go to the theatre, so he gives them to me. Would it be improper for me to ask young men of my acquaintance to take them?  
BESSIE.  
It depends altogether on how well acquainted you are with the young man in question. If he is an old friend there can be no harm in explaining the situation to him and asking him to escort you.

To the Editor: Is it proper for me to give a gentleman a present? As we are only friends, we do not meet often. I have loved him very dearly from the first time we met.  
MY PREFERENCE, Brooklyn.

To the Editor: Give him a present by all means, if you care to.  
C. R.  
What would make a suitable Christmas present for a lady to her friend?  
C. R.  
Give her a ring or some other piece of jewelry, if you can afford it; if that is beyond your means, any of the numerous gifts suggested in this department during the past fortnight will be suitable.

To the Editor: Can a married lady send a Christmas gift to a friend (a married man), the lady having no acquaintance with the gentleman's wife?  
MRS. LOVELAND.  
It depends on the gift. If the man is an old friend, his wife should not object to his receiving any ordinary memento from you.

To the Editor: Another young man and I have been in the habit of calling upon a young lady pretty nearly every Sunday evening for the last six months. Would it be proper for us to give her a Christmas present? If you think it would be proper to give her a present, please send us a few suggestions suitable for a young lady of seventeen, costing \$2 or so.  
A LOVER, Brooklyn, N. Y.

It will be perfectly proper. Any bit of brooch, a bonnet, a card-case, a leather or alligator engagement book, or a calendar are suitable presents.

## TOUGH ON TENDER PASSION.

**Jokers Cast Pebbles of Wit at Love and the Lover.**  
If we could meet the first girl who heard us breathe love's vow, she'd probably be the last girl who'd hear us breathe it now.—Life.

**His Proposal on File.**  
"Well, Jack," said his chum, after his chum had proposed to the most popular girl in town, "is it all right?"  
"Well," said Jack, ruefully, "I can hope—that's all."

**Faithful Jack.**  
Jack—I've had over a dozen offers of marriage already this season.  
Bess—Good gracious! Who from?  
Jack—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

**Stirred to Action.**  
"What made him propose so suddenly?"  
"Jealousy," replied the demure girl. "I took off my hat at the theatre and he overheard the young man just behind me call me an angel."—Washington Star.

**A Hopeless Rebuff.**  
Dearie—I am willing to be married, Jack. Just as soon as you can make a good living for both of us.  
Jack—Then I am to consider our engagement broken.—Boston Traveller.

**Evidence Enough.**  
Maud—Does your belle believe in long courtships?  
Bessie—I guess she does. He usually comes soon after dark, and stays until the milk wagon goes round to rumble.—Philadelphia Record.

**Jumping at Chances.**  
George—I wonder why it's so easy to get engaged to a girl in the summer.  
Jack—Well, you wait. Jack, after a girl sees herself in a summer holiday home looking-glass, she'll accept almost anybody.—New York Weekly.

**On the Hooks.**  
Sibyl—When Steve proposed to me he acted like a fish out of water.  
Bessie—Why shouldn't he? He knew he was caught.—Yonkers Blade.

**Borrowing on Relationship.**  
The Young Brother—My brother Bob, lend me a quarter will you?  
The Young Brother—What do you mean by calling me brother Bob?  
The Young Brother—Well your name's Bob ain't it? And as your sister's decided to be a sister to me, I'm her brother ain't it?—Harper's Bazar.

**Reached His Limit.**  
Rejected Suitor—Can never love another.  
Rejoinder—Unlucky! I thought you'd reach your limit after awhile.—Detroit Tribune.

**The Sparker, Too.**  
Ernie's mother to Ernie, who has been a little impudent to his father—But don't you know your father is the master of the family?  
Ernie—Yes, you just bet he is. And the sparker, too.—San Francisco Call.

## DR. SANGUIN'S WONDERFUL DOOM.

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## JACQUES'S REVENGE.

**Or the Story of the Stolen Brain of Fifteen.**  
(Told after the French style.)  
Her name was Fifine. Would you guess she was French? Ah, no. You are right. She had been born in France, and she had come to New York with her parents. It was a safe proposition to advance that girls who select birthplaces out of France also have eyes. Localities is diverse. It is distributed all over the world. Birth is a misfortune confined to no particular locality. Fifine deserves no credit for being born in France.

**CHAPTER II.**  
Fifine's dream eyes suggested sleep. Sleep is but a hypnotism. Young Jacques Thoret was an enthusiast on hypnotism. He thought it a good thing. In pushing it along he ran against several beams from the dreamy eyes. He was too scientific to be interested in dreams. You are wrong. Guess again. Investigation of starry eyes brought Jacques to the brink of the abyss of love. He fell in.

**CHAPTER III.**  
The French language was inadequate to express the feelings of the lovers. They used telephony. The telephony is a telegraphic arrangement for the conveying of ideas upon people by means of thought waves. It was not invented by Edison, it was not also discarded by him. Jacques could not steel Fifine's thoughts at will without danger of arrest. There is no such thing as telephony.

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## IN OUR FLAT-HOUSE.

A letter asking me if I own one of the nine dogs in the house, referred to in my first note: Of course it is none of the writer's business. I do not own one of those dogs. I own two of them.

There is a new family on the fourth floor. Only one vacant flat in the house now. But for my part, I should not choose to move in December.

Forteen delivery wagons from the big stores stopping at the house in one day give evidence of something coming. Christmas is the something.

And have you noticed the extra politeness of our hall-boys?

An apology is a nice thing to get, sometimes. It will not take the place of a silver spoon engraved with one's initials. But it is pleasant to think that somebody has a neat souvenir of the party given by a neighbor to whom one has lent a few pieces for the table.

With only one piano going at a time, and that one having a regular melody performed upon it, I don't object to the sound at all. But where a piano is being tuned, I think the least one owner can do is to close the apartment windows for the time.

**A Street-Cleaning Report Lay on His Desk.**  
(Air. "Her Golden Hair Was Hanging Down Her Back.")  
There was once an Acting Captain of the gallant Broadway Squad.

And a street-cleaning report lay on his desk; From each of his subordinates he took a little bit.

And a street-cleaning report lay on his desk; And he landed at the station from each official stool.

He put into an envelope a very pretty roll; Said he, "I wish those Higher Up would not demand such stuff!"

And a street-cleaning report lay on his desk; CHORUS.  
But, oh, my! He couldn't tell a lie!

He told upon the stand where hoodlums wait; But alas! And alack! It never came back— For he had to give up eighty-per cent.

It had always been the custom, so he told to Mr. Chief.

And a street-cleaning report lay on his desk; To send up the blackboard that the special mess had taken off.

And a street-cleaning report lay on his desk; And if any poor policeman dared to get into arrears.

The Captain knew a dozen ways to work upon their fears.

For he'd received his orders from old Inspector B.—

For that street-cleaning report upon his desk; CHORUS.  
But, oh, my! He couldn't tell a lie!

He gave away his credit to hoodlums; But alas! And alack! It never came back— For he had to give up eighty-per cent.

It was positive relief, then, after a moment or two, that he raised his head and gazed at him dreamily.

There was but a low tone of light from the "bus" door, where hung the one lamp, and his face was only touched upon the forehead, and checked the lowering deep hollows of dark for eyes and mouth.

He saw her muffled something to herself, smooth down her dark hair with feeble hands, and lay the hands folded upon her lap. She lingered at the stair where he had been, and would have passed her to get out.

His thoughts now became somewhat melancholy. He had been thinking of him of his sister, of whom he was fond in that vaguely faithful way that comes to people who have been through the circumstances of birth or business into the years of mutual help or alliance.

She was older than he, and had looked after his boyhood tenderly enough, on the whole. Now that she was broken, he maintained her in the checkbook she wished from the vulgar poor, who had their own ways of showing dislike to reduced gentility.

Thus he had taken the tiny four-roomed "villa" in a jerry-built tenement, a third-rate hotel, so that they might live, till at last of late he had been obliged to send her into a hotel.